

to the effort of trying to get this done. I know my colleague Senator ERNST, who is here to speak, is also a supporter of this program. There is strong bipartisan support to make this happen. We should not allow one or two people to keep us from moving forward.

I thank the Presiding Officer. We will continue to work on this effort.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. TILLIS). The Senator from Iowa.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL

Mrs. ERNST. Mr. President, the 2019 National Defense Authorization Act on the floor today is a bipartisan bill that is focused on ensuring our warfighters are prepared to operate across the full spectrum of conflict and to support the objectives laid out in the 2018 national defense strategy.

I am disappointed that we were not able to come together and work through a robust, bipartisan amendment process this year on the floor. We had a great markup, and I am thankful that my colleagues across the aisle were so willing to work together in a bipartisan manner on this piece of legislation.

As the chair of the Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee, I worked hard with my ranking member, Senator HEINRICH of New Mexico, to ensure the NDAA invests additional funding in innovative technologies so that we can maintain U.S. technological superiority over near-peer adversaries, particularly in the areas of hypersonics, unmanned systems, directed energy, and artificial intelligence.

The NDAA provides much needed funding to our Special Operations forces, which are playing a key role in combating terrorist networks and countering growing aggression by adversaries like Russia, China, and Iran. It also fully funds SOCOM's request for the Preservation of the Force and Families Initiative and expands key authorities to provide enhanced support to the families of our special operators.

By supporting a total of \$716 billion for our Nation's defense, the NDAA provides the flexibility that is needed for our military to make targeted investments for the future. It also addresses issues that deeply impact our servicemembers.

I especially thank Senator WARREN, of Massachusetts, for her work with me in addressing research and treatment options for traumatic brain injuries. This is an issue that is especially important to me as a veteran, for I have known and worked with individuals who have experienced blasts and rollovers in military vehicles, and we know the implications that come from those who suffer from traumatic brain injury.

I urge my colleagues to support the NDAA. This bill is absolutely vital to restoring the health of our military and supporting our national security

objectives. Again, I urge my colleagues to support this bill. It is vital we complete our NDAA.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. BOB CORKER,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 18-18, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of India for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$930 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. HOOPER,
Lieutenant General, USA, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 18-18

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(1) Prospective Purchaser: Government of India.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment * \$340 million.

Other \$590 million.

Total \$930 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: The Government of India has requested the sale of the following items in support of a proposed direct commercial sale of six (6) AH-64E Apache helicopters:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Fourteen (14) T700-GE-701D

Four (4) AN/APG-78 Fire Control Radars

Four (4) Radar Electronic Units (REU) Block III

Four (4) AN/APR-48B Modernized Radar Frequency Interferometers (M-RFI's)

One hundred eighty (180) AGM-114L-3 Hellfire Longbow Missiles

Ninety (90) AGM-114R-3 Hellfire II Missiles

Two hundred (200) Stinger Block I-92H Missiles

Seven (7) Modernized Target Acquisition and Designation Sights (MTADS)/Pilot Night Vision Sensors (PNVS)

Fourteen (14) Embedded Global Positioning System/Inertial Navigation Systems (EGI)

Non-MDE: Also included are 2.75" HE M151 rockets, training and dummy missiles, 30mm cannons and ammunition, transponders, simulators, communication equipment, spare and repair parts, tools and test equipment, support equipment, repair and return support, personnel training and training equipment, publications and technical documentation, U.S. Government and contractor engineering and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistic and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (IN-B-UAN).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: IN-B-UAH.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: June 12, 2018.

* As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

India—Support for Direct Commercial Sale of AH-64E Apache Helicopters

The Government of India has requested to buy the following items in support of a proposed direct commercial sale of six (6) AH-64E Apache helicopters: fourteen (14) T700-GE-701D engines; four (4) AN/APG-78 Fire Control Radars; four (4) Radar Electronic Units (REU) Block III; four (4) AN/APR-48B Modernized Radar Frequency Interferometers (M-RFI's); one hundred eighty (180) AGM-114L-3 Hellfire Longbow missiles; ninety (90) AGM-114R-3 Hellfire II missiles; two hundred (200) Stinger Block I-92H missiles; seven (7) Modernized Target Acquisition Designation Sight/Pilot Night Vision Sensors (MTADS-PNVS); and fourteen (14) Embedded GPS Inertial Navigation Systems (EGI). Also included are rockets, training and dummy missiles, 30mm cannons and ammunition, transponders, simulators, communication equipment, spare and repair parts, tools and test equipment, support equipment, repair and return support, personnel training and training equipment, publications and technical documentation, U.S. Government and contractor engineering and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistic and program support. The total estimated program cost is \$930 million.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to strengthen the U.S.-Indian strategic relationship and to improve the security of an important partner which continues to be an important force for political stability, peace, and economic progress in South Asia.

The proposed sale is in conjunction with and in support of a proposed direct commercial sale of six (6) AH-64E Apache helicopters, and will strengthen India's ability to defend its homeland and deter regional threats. This support for the AH-64E will provide an increase in India's defensive capability to counter ground-armored threats and modernize its armed forces. India will have no difficulty absorbing the helicopters and support equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractors will be Lockheed Martin Corporation, Orlando, FL; General Electric Company, Cincinnati, OH; Lockheed Martin Mission Systems and Sensors, Owego, NY; Longbow Limited Liability Corporation, Orlando, FL; and Raytheon Company, Tucson, AZ. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.